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Fifty-ninth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 88 (b)
Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Majdi Ramadan (Lebanon), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.43

Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/180 of 21 December 2001, 57/242 of 20 December 2002 and 58/201 of 23 December 2003,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] in which Heads of State and Government recognized the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries and urged both bilateral and multilateral donors to increase financial and technical assistance to this group of countries to meet their particular development needs and to help them to overcome the impediments of geography by improving their transit transport systems, and resolved to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty,

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose

[1] See resolution 55/2.

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serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their overall growth and socio-economic development,

Recognizing that landlocked developing countries, with their small and vulnerable economies, are among the poorest of developing countries, and noting that, of the thirty-one landlocked developing countries, sixteen are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries,

Recalling the Almaty Declaration and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[2]

Recalling the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), an initiative for accelerating regional economic cooperation and development as most landlocked and transit developing countries are located in Africa,

Taking note of the ministerial communiqué adopted at the fifth Annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries, held on 27 September 2004 at United Nations Headquarters,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;[4]

2. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, in accordance with applicable rules of international law;

3. *Reaffirms also* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

4. *Invites* Member States, organizations of the United Nations system as well as other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and multilateral financial and development institutions to implement the specific actions in the five priorities agreed upon in the Almaty Programme of Action;

5. *Invites* donor countries, the United Nations Development Programme and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications, to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes, and, in this regard, to consider, inter alia, improving the availability and optimal use of different transport modes and intermodal efficiency along transport corridors;

6. *Recognizes* that most transit countries are themselves developing countries often of broadly similar economic structure and beset by similar scarcity of resources, including the lack of adequate transit transport infrastructure;

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[2] See resolution 58/201.

[3] A/C.2/59/2.

[4] A/59/208.

7. *Emphasizes* that assistance for the improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor countries should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

8. *Stresses* the need for the implementation of the São Paulo Consensus adopted at the eleventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in São Paulo, Brazil, on 18 June 2004, in particular paragraphs 66 and 84 thereof, by the relevant international organizations and donors in a multi-stakeholder approach and emphasizes, in this regard, that the examination of issues relating to the trade of small, vulnerable economies, and the framing of responses to these trade-related issues to facilitate their fuller integration into the multilateral trading system should be actively pursued consistent with the Doha work programme, taking into consideration the particular needs of landlocked developing countries within a new global framework for transit transport cooperation for landlocked and transit developing countries;

9. *Invites* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, including the regional commissions, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank, the World Customs Organization, the World Trade Organization and the International Maritime Organization, to integrate the Almaty Programme of Action in their relevant programmes of work, and encourages them to continue their support to the landlocked and transit developing countries, inter alia, through well-coordinated and coherent technical assistance programmes in transit transport;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in particular the Division for Services Infrastructure and Trade Efficiency and the Special Programme for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, to continue its technical assistance activities and analytical work related to transit transport cooperation between landlocked and transit developing countries;

11. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States of the Secretariat, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001 and in the Almaty Programme of Action and the Almaty Declaration, to continue its cooperation and coordination with organizations within the United Nations system, particularly those engaged in operational activities on the ground in landlocked and transit developing countries to ensure effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action in line with General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, and also requests the Office to continue to carry out advocacy work to mobilize international awareness and focus attention on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

12. *Requests*, in this regard, the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take necessary measures to provide within existing resources the Office with adequate resources so as to allow it to effectively carry out its added mandate as stipulated in the Almaty Programme of Action;

13. *Invites* donor countries and the international financial and development institutions to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the

Secretary-General to support the activities related to the follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Almaty International Ministerial Conference;

14. *Invites* the 2005 high-level event to address the special needs of the landlocked developing countries, within a new global framework for transit transport cooperation for landlocked and transit developing countries, in accordance with the modalities to be set by the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, while assessing the progress achieved in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session an item entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation";

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action.

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Fifty-ninth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 85 (h)
Sustainable development: rendering assistance to the poor mountain countries to overcome obstacles in socio-economic and ecological areas

Kyrgyzstan: draft resolution

Rendering assistance to the poor mountain countries to overcome obstacles in socio-economic and ecological areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998, by which it proclaimed 2002 the International Year of Mountains,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/189 of 20 December 2000, 57/245 of 20 December 2002 and 58/203 and 58/216 of 23 December 2003,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] adopted on 8 September 2000,

Recognizing the socio-economic and ecological challenges often faced by the poor mountain countries, where, for the most part, the territory is located in alpine regions difficult of access,

Underlining the fact that there remain key challenges to implementing socio-economic development and eradicating poverty in mountain regions,

Stressing the need to create international economic conditions reflecting the higher vulnerability of mountain regions,

Noting that the continuing debt and debt-servicing obligations of developing countries, in particular the poor mountain countries, constitute an element that adversely affects their development,

[1] See resolution 55/2.

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1. *Recommends* the donor countries and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to take appropriate debt relief measures for poor mountain countries through such actions as debt relief and, as appropriate, debt cancellation;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session.

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Fifty-ninth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 85 (h)
Sustainable development: rendering assistance to the poor mountain countries to overcome obstacles in socio-economic and ecological areas

Albania, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Georgia, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan: revised draft resolution

Rendering assistance to poor mountain countries to overcome obstacles in socio-economic and ecological areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998, by which it proclaimed 2002 the International Year of Mountains,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/189 of 20 December 2000, 57/245 of 20 December 2002 and 58/216 of 23 December 2003,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] adopted on 8 September 2000,

Recalling chapter 13 of Agenda 21[2] and all relevant paragraphs of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[3] in particular paragraph 42 thereof, as the overall policy frameworks for sustainable development in mountain regions,

Decides to consider the sub-item "Rendering assistance to poor mountain countries to overcome obstacles in socio-economic and ecological areas" at its sixtieth session under the agenda item "Sustainable development", bearing in mind resolution 58/216.

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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Fifty-ninth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 85
Sustainable development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Ms. Ewa Anzorge (Poland), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.16

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighth special session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 53/242 of 28 July 1999, 56/193 of 21 December 2001, 57/251 of 20 December 2002 and 58/209 of 23 December 2003,

Taking into account Agenda 21[1] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[2]

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the principal body within the United Nations system in the field of environment, which should take into account, within its mandate, the sustainable development needs of developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition,

Recalling also the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to fully implement the outcomes of the decision on international environmental governance adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its seventh special session,

Reiterating the need to ensure that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in environment-related fields, remain important components of the work of the United

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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Nations Environment Programme, and noting in this regard the ongoing work of the High-level Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group to prepare an intergovernmental strategic plan for technology support and capacity-building,

Recalling its resolutions 57/251 and 58/209, by which Member States, the Governing Council and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system were encouraged to submit their comments, in a timely manner, on the important but complex issue of establishing universal membership of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, including its legal, political, institutional, financial and system-wide implications, in order to contribute to the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration before its sixtieth session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighth special session and the decisions contained therein;[3]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to its resolutions 57/251 and 58/209;[4]

3. *Notes* that the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its eighth special session, discussed all components of the recommendations on international environmental governance, as contained in decision SS.VII/1 of the Governing Council, and notes their continued discussion scheduled by the Governing Council for its twenty-third session;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for the United Nations Environment Programme, within its mandate, to further contribute to sustainable development programmes, to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation at all levels, and to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the mandate of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

5. *Calls upon* all countries to further engage in the negotiations for an intergovernmental strategic plan for technology support and capacity-building with a view to its adoption at the twenty-third session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in February 2005;

6. *Notes* the differences in views expressed so far on the important but complex issue of establishing universal membership of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum; also notes the upcoming consideration of the question of universal membership by the Council/Forum at its twenty-third session; encourages Member States, the Governing Council and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet done so to submit their comments to the Secretariat on the important but complex issue of establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environmental Forum, including its legal, political, institutional, financial and system-wide implications, as their contribution to the report of the Secretary-General; and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report incorporating those views to the Assembly for consideration at the sixty-first session;

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[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/59/25), annex I.

[4] A/59/262.

7. *Emphasizes* the need to further enhance coordination and cooperation among the relevant United Nations organizations in the promotion of the environmental dimension of sustainable development, and in this respect welcomes the continued participation of the United Nations Environment Programme in the United Nations Development Group;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to contribute, within its mandate and as a member of the Inter-Agency Task Force, to the preparations for the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, to be held in Mauritius from 10 to 14 January 2005;[5]

9. *Notes* the decision of the Governing Council to discuss at its twenty-third session the issues related to domestic, industrial and hazardous waste management, in particular regarding capacity-building and technology support, and, in that context, to consider innovative ways of mobilizing financial resources from all appropriate sources to support the efforts of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in this area;

10. *Also notes* the Governing Council decision to review at its twenty-third session the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the intergovernmental consultation on the strengthening of the scientific base of UNEP;

11. *Reiterates* the need for stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for UNEP and, in accordance with Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), underlines the need to consider adequate reflection of all administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget;

12. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of section III.B. of decision SS.VII/1 of the Governing Council on strengthening the role and financial situation of the United Nations Environment Programme, including the significant broadening of the donor base and increase in total contributions to the Environment Fund, and, in this regard, takes note that the Governing Council will review the implementation of section III.B. of its decision SS.VII/1 at its twenty-third session;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Programme and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi.

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[5] Resolution 57/262.